GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:280
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2005
SETTING UP OF TASK FORCE ON BASIC SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up a Task Force on basic Scientific Research;

(b) if so, the details of the Task Force;

(c) whether the Task Force has submitted its report to the Government;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a): to (b): A Task Force for basic scientific research in universities has been set up by the Government with the following terms of reference:

i) To make an assessment of the present status of scientific research & training in Universities and to determine the areas of concern.

ii) To suggest solutions and strategies to retrieve and enhance the excellence of Universities in the area of scientific research and training.

iii) To make an assessment of the resources required both in physical and financial terms to implement these solutions and its modalities.

(c) :Yes, Sir.

(d): The Task Force has mainly recommended that in order to promote quality scientific research in universities, infrastructural facilities ought to be upgraded by providing development grants for modern laboratories, physical infrastructure including uninterrupted power supply, water, safety requirements of international standards, high level equipment with built-in maintenance mechanism, exclusive research students' hostel and a research starter fund, need to create ten networking centres in Basic Sciences in leading departments of universities in different parts of the country to promote collaborative research, access to advanced facilities and imparting training in frontier areas, etc.

(e) The report of the Task Force has been accepted by the Government and the UGC has been directed to implement the recommendations contained therein.